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6-9-04

Docket Number: 008312-0271043

PATENT APPLICATION

Client Reference: T4KN-00S0974-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

ISAO HOSHINO, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2653

Application No.: 09/695,284

Examiner: THANG V. TRAN

Filed: October 25, 2000

Confirmation No.: 2040

For: OPTICAL HEAD AND OPTICAL DISC APPARATUS EQUIPPED WITH OPTICAL HEAD

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JUN 07 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

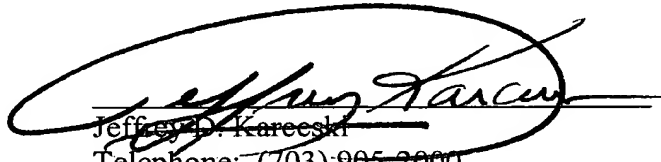
Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the references have been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application in the attached Japanese Communication (Office Action) issued April 20, 2004, i.e., not more than three months ago. An English language version of the foreign communication is attached for the Examiner's information. Both the Japanese Communication and the English Abstracts are relied upon to satisfy the requirement of a statement of relevance for the attached references.

Respectfully submitted,



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Client Ref.

0271043

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT**

Applicant: Isao HOSHINO, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/695,284

Filing Date: October 25, 2000

Date: June 3, 2004

Page

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of

1

Examiner: T. V. TRAN

Group Art Unit: 2653

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials*	Document Number	Date MM/YYYY	Name (Family Name of First Inventor)	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date (if appropriate)
	AR					
	BR					
	CR					
	DR					
	ER					
	FR					
	GR					
	HR					
	IR					
	JR					
	KR					
	LR					
	MR					
	NR					

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date MM/YYYY	Country	Inventor Name		English Abstract		Translation Readily Available	
						Enclosed	No	Enclose	No
	OR 10-199021	07/1998	Japan	ARAI et al.		X			X
	PR 10-242500	09/1998	Japan	KITAMURA et al.		X			X
	QR 9-204683	08/1997	Japan	IMADA et al.		X			X
	RR 9-270146	10/1997	Japan	KUROKAMA		X			X
	SR								
	TR								
	UR								
	VR								
	WR								
	XR								

OTHER (Including in this order Author, Title, Periodical Name, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

YR	Office Action, dated April 20, 2004, from the Japanese Patent Office for Patent Application No. 11-304021	X		X	
ZR					
AAR					
BBR					
CCR					

Examiner

Date Considered:

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.